

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-07 IO-13 AGRE-00 AID-05 TRSE-00

DOE-15 SOE-02 COME-00 INT-05 CIAE-00 INR-10

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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9277

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JAKARTA 7499

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ECIN, ASEAN, ID

SUBJECT: ASEAN SECRETARIAT INTEREST IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
PROJECTS

1. AT INITIATIVE OF DR. SAWASDI SKULTHAI, DIRECTOR OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (S AND T) AT ASEAN SECRETARIAT, USAID OFFICERS (SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND AGRICULTURE) MET RECENTLY WITH HIM AND SECRETARY GENERAL UMARJADI. DURING THAT MEETING SAWASDI EXPRESSED HIS DESIRE TO SUGGEST S AND T PROJECTS WHICH MIGHT BE DISCUSSED WHEN TECHNICAL EXPERTS FROM THE US AND ASEAN MEET IN JULY, AS WELL AS HIS INTEREST IN LEARNING WHAT S AND T PROJECTS THE US MIGHT PUT FORWARD.

2. EMBOFF, ACCCOMPANIED BY USAID SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ADVISER, SUBSEQUENTLY CALLED ON SAWASDI AND UMARJADI TO SUGGEST THAT USE OF THE OFFICIAL CHANNEL IN MANILA WOULD BE NECESSARY IF THE PROJECTS WERE TO BE INCLUDED IN THE AGENDA. BOTH READILY AGREED AND SAID THIS WOULD BE DONE.
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IN THE MEANTIME THEY REQUESTED INFORMAL USG REACTION TO THE SUGGESTED PROJECTS LISTED PARA 3 AS WELL AS KNOWLEDGE OF ANY SPECIFIC S AND T PRIORITIES AND/OR PROJECTS WHICH THE US MIGHT WISH TO SUGGEST FOR THE JULY DISCUSSIONS. THEY ALSO ASKED WHETHER THERE WERE ANY SPECIFIC S AND T PROJECTS THE US WOULD LIKE TO SEE EMERGE FROM THE SECRETARIAT. UMARJADI AND SAWASDI MADE CLEAR THAT THE SECRE-

TARIAT'S INTEREST IS IN S AND T PROJECTS WHICH RELATE TO BASIC HUMAN NEEDS IN THE ASEAN REGION.

3. SAWASDI IS SUGGESTING DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL EXPERIMENTAL AND DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS IN: (1) FOOD (EG. HIGH PROTEIN WINGED BEANS AND SOYA BEANS AND MARINE FISHERIES), (2) ENERGY (EG. ALCOHOL AND SOLAR ENERGY), (3) HOUSING AND SETTLEMENTS (EG. LOW-COST CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND SETTLEMENT DESIGNS), (4) VALUE ADDED POSSIBILITIES FOR REGIONAL NATURAL RESOURCES (EG. METALS AND VEGETABLE OILS) FOR EMPLOYMENT GENERATION AND (5) ENVIRONMENT AND POLLUTION (EG. AIR AND WATER). LEAD COUNTRIES FOR THESE FIVE TOPICS WOULD BE THAILAND, INDONESIA, PHILIPPINES, MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE, RESPECTIVELY.

4. COMMENT: SAWASDI'S REQUEST POINTS UP THE CONTINUING VACUUM IN WHICH SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS OFTEN LABOR; NEITHER HE NOR UMARJADI WAS AWARE OF THE DRAFT AGENDA DEVELOPED FOR THE ASEAN EXPERTS' MEETING (MANILA 8217). WHEN GIVEN A COPY SAWASDI EXPRESSED PLEASURE AT THE FACT THAT SEVERAL OF THE PROJECTS HE HAD INTENDED TO SUGGEST WERE ALREADY ON THE AGENDA. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THE SECRETARIAT HAS MADE A REQUEST OF THIS MATURE TO EMBASSY JAKARTA AND WE HOPE OUR EMPHASIS ON USE OF THE OFFICIAL LINK WILL SERVE TO LIMIT SUCH REQUESTS IN THE FUTURE. HOWEVER, IN THIS INSTANCE WE HOPE THE DEPT CAN PROVIDE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SOME INFORMAL REACTION WHICH COULD BE PASSED TO SAWASDI, WHO IS GENUINELY SEEKING TO BE HELPFUL.
MASTERS

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